

\$10,000 deductible and who are being told that they have got to spend up all that money just to get procedures to maybe perhaps deal with a bladder infection or something like that?

The time is now. The fierce urgency is now upon us. Mr. Speaker, let those who want to delay the care and well-being of others do something else. But for us who care about and have heard the calls of the people, let's pass health care now.

MAKING AMERICANS COMPETITIVE AGAIN

(Mr. BOUSTANY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, this week congressional Democrats will continue to try to rush through a sweeping overhaul of American health care. And this follows the President's expensive stimulus plan currently mired in bureaucracy that has not prevented a national recession despite his pledge to save or create 3.5 million jobs. So, Mr. Speaker, I ask President Obama, where are those jobs?

Now their plan for health care overhaul includes a government-run bureaucracy that would put red tape between patients and their doctors. Far too often patients in our current government-run programs lack real access to a doctor, leaving them no recourse other than to seek emergency room care. Now Democratic proposals suggest lumping millions more Americans into these government-run systems to somehow improve the quality of care. This defies common sense. Instead, health care will be delayed and rationed, leaving millions of Americans without access to a doctor or quality health care.

Republicans have a plan to reduce health care costs for families and businesses and taxpayers and also maintain quality, and that's the best way for Americans to be more competitive and to spur job creation.

HEALTH CARE REFORM AND THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Well, Mr. Speaker, we're being treated today to the mass choir from the insurance industry telling us that we must be afraid and we must go slowly. They've been singing that song since 1935, and we have been trying and trying and the American people are deeper and deeper and deeper in trouble.

Now the insurance choir is really worried, Mr. Speaker, because if we got a public option, they'd have to compete, and they can't stand it.

For the last 12 years or 15 years since Mr. Clinton tried to bring us health care, they have done nothing, not one single thing. They ran the House for 12

years. Not a single proposal, not a single time did they come out here with any way to deal with the people who don't have health insurance. And now we come with a public option and they say, Oh, God, wait, wait, folks, don't be afraid, we will get to it some day.

Now is the day.

THE DEMOCRATS' HEALTH REFORM PLAN: A TRILLION DOLLAR GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF OUR NATION'S HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY

(Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that Democrat leaders have put forth legislation under the guise of health care reform that will result in the direct loss of 5 million jobs from crippling new pay-or-play taxes on small businesses.

Our economy is hurting, and Congress should be creating jobs. The Democrats' health care proposal will do the exact opposite. It will take away jobs.

The Democrats have chosen to try to fund a trillion dollar government takeover of our Nation's health care industry in the midst of the worst recession in half a century. Worse than that, they have chosen to make small businesses, long the lifeblood of our economy, bear the brunt of these costs.

The simple fact is that the Democrats' rhetoric is deceptive. It does not match the legislation they have proposed. They use words like "reform" and "choice," but all their plan does is tax and spend to fund new government mandates.

Mr. Speaker, my Democrat colleagues are presenting the American people with a false choice by comparing their proposal with the alternative of doing nothing.

We deserve better. We deserve real reform.

THE HEALTH CARE REFORM PLAN AND WHY WE NEED IT

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I can understand why our friends and colleagues on the other side were very much concerned over the cost estimate that the Congressional Budget Office came up with for this health insurance plan. But there are some things in the CBO report that we also need to be aware of.

First of all, over the next decade, there will actually be a \$6 billion surplus. So in terms of adding to the deficit, it doesn't. It actually adds a surplus. But they also estimate that only about 3 percent of Americans will actually choose the public option. So 97

percent of Americans will continue to be in their private plan. They also estimate that the amount of employer-provided coverage is going to increase. So this is hardly some kind of socialized government takeover of health care when 97 percent will continue to be insured by their own employer.

Now, the real reason why I think this needs to be done is that health insurance premiums have gone up by 3 fold in the past 9 years. And that is why we need health care reform.

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WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REHBERG. Last week, I joined my colleagues on this floor asking an important question: Where are the jobs? Well, I have found more than 1,300 of them shipped to South Africa and Russia.

General Motors, the company that took millions of tax dollars to save American jobs, recently canceled its contract for domestic palladium with the Stillwater Mine in Montana. Why? Because our environmental laws and regulations are higher, our wages are higher, and our safety laws make domestic palladium a little more expensive in the United States.

So GM, that is "government motors" these days, chose to buy its palladium from mines in South Africa and Russia, mines that pollute the environment and treat workers unfairly. Just this month, an accident in South Africa killed 61 miners.

The government owns GM and could prevent this, but the President's czar sees no problem sending U.S. jobs to Russia. Maybe that is why he is called a czar.

BROKEN HEALTH INSURANCE SYSTEM NEEDS REFORM NOW

(Ms. GIFFORDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GIFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address our single most important domestic issue that faces our country, reforming our broken health insurance program.

We spend too much, we receive too little, and we are left worrying that the insurance that we have won't be enough. Nationwide, premiums have doubled in the last 9 years, increasing three times faster than real wages.

Arizona's Eighth Congressional District is especially burdened. In 2008, we had over 950 personal bankruptcies due to health care problems.

We can't perpetuate the status quo. Arizonans need reform that protects us from being denied coverage based on a preexisting condition. We need reform that guarantees care if we lose our job or move. Arizonans need reform that